



WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS??

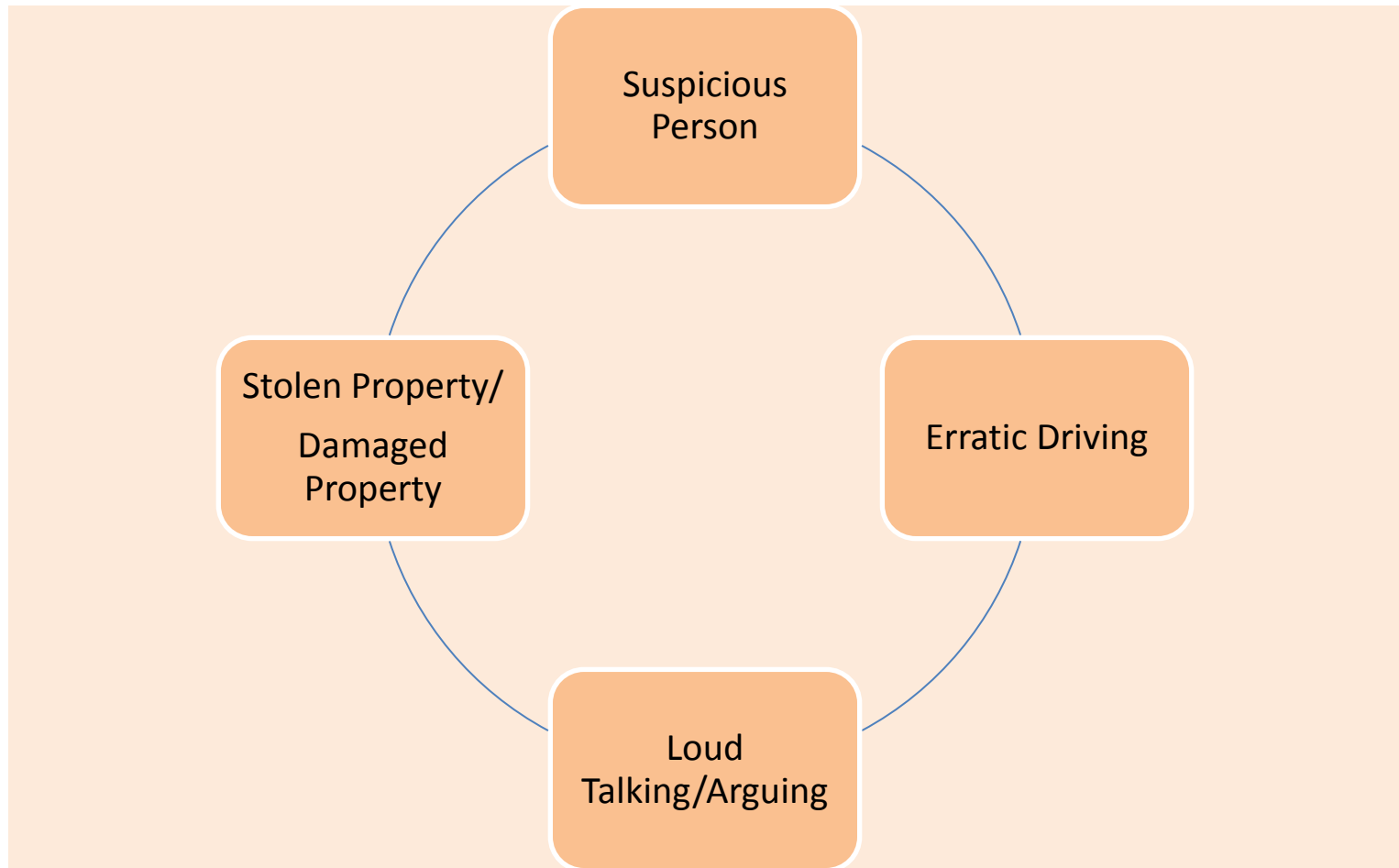
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**As citizens of the United States,
we all have certain rights
granted to each of us under the
U.S. Constitution.**

**Under the Americans with
Disabilities Act (A.D.A.),
accommodations must be made for
persons with disabilities.**

Reasons Why a Police Officer May Stop You and Ask You Questions





What would you do if you couldn't see the police car?

REAL LIFE EXAMPLES OF POLICE INTERACTIONS



What would you do if you couldn't hear the police officer?

What would you do if you had a speech or language impairment? How do you answer the officer?





**What to do if you
are stopped by a
police officer?**





Back to Basics:

the A,B,C's of Police
Contact

**A- Always answer the
police officer.**

B- Be polite and respectful.

C- Calm and cool.

Police Rights Card

What to Do if You are Stopped by the Police

Stay Calm. Be Polite and Respectful. Do **Not** Run.

Don't be Afraid!

If the Police Officer asks you, you must give your name and show them and identification card (if you have one). **Please try to always have some form of identification with you.**

If the Police Officer asks you other questions like "what happened?" Tell the Police Officer that you have a disability. Ask the Police Officer to contact your Emergency Contact person. (Names and telephone numbers are on the back)

Do not talk about what happened.

Do not sign any paper about what happened.

Wait until your emergency contact person is with you and tells you what to do.

Police Rights Card

Back side of the Card

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Phone Number:

Or

Name:

Phone Number :



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for Persons with Disabilities

What to do if you are arrested

Remember the A, B, C's...

Types of things you may be arrested for:

- Loitering (being in a place too long with no reason to be there)
 - Breach of the Peace
 - Fighting/Assault
 - Driving Under the Influence
- Writing a check and you have no money in the bank
 - Possession of drugs
 - Drugs not in the appropriate container
- Helping someone else who does something illegal

What will happen if you are arrested:

- You may be handcuffed.
- The police may search you and your property and take things from your pockets and hold them until you are released from jail.
- The police will tell you your rights.
- The police will ask you if you want a lawyer.
- The police may let you go and give you a summons which is a date to appear in court.
- The police may take you in the police car and bring you to the police station.
- The police will take your fingerprints and photograph you.
- The police may hold you overnight for court the next day.

What Can Happen When You Go to Court

If you are released by the police and get a summons:

- ✓ A summons is a paper that the police officer will give you. It will say your name, address, what you are charged with and your court date.
- ✓ You must go to court on your court date. You should ask your contact person or another adult to go to court with you to help you.
- ✓ When you get to court you will tell a prosecutor that you are there and they will talk to you about what to do with your case.
 - ✓ You may or may not see a Judge on your first court date.
- ✓ If you reach an agreement with the prosecutor you may not have to return to court on another date. You may work it out that day.
- ✓ If you do not work it out on your first court date, you may have a continuance to decide what to do with your case.
- ✓ You may or may not qualify for the services of a lawyer from the Public Defender's office

If you are held by the police in the lock-up overnight,
you will be brought to Court the next court day.

- The police will feed you.
- The police may/may not let you call someone.
- The police will try to make sure you get your medications.
- The police will bring you to court the next court day and your property will come to court with you unless it is evidence in the case.

What will happen when you get to court:

- ✓ You will meet with a Bail Commissioner who is a person who will tell the Judge if you should be released or not. You may need money to get out of jail.
- ✓ You will meet with a lawyer from the Public Defender's office.
- ✓ You may meet with a social worker or investigator from the Public Defender's office.
- ✓ You will see a Judge.
- ✓ If the Judge releases you, you may have certain things that the Judge will order you to do so that you do not have to go back to jail. The Judge may order you to take your medication, do not get into trouble, and come back to court when he/she tells you to.



You Must:

- Always go to court on your court dates.
- Be on time for each court date - (9:00a.m.)
- Return to court on each court date. If you do not you can be arrested for a new charge called “failure to appear.”
- Continue to go to court until your case is finished.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Persons with Disabilities



- Visual impairments
- Auditory impairments
- Physical disabilities such as:
 - cerebral palsy,
 - spina bifida,
 - muscular dystrophy
- Developmental disabilities
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Neurological/seizure disorders
- Mental health diagnoses such as
 - bi-polar disorder
 - Schizophrenia
 - depression
 - anxiety
- Speech and language disabilities

“Heroes became heroes flaws and all.
You don't have to be perfect to fulfill
your dream.”

Peter McWilliams - An author of self-help books who died at the
age of 51 from AIDS and cancer